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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Confirmation Number: 2952

Masayuki KAWAZOE et al.

Group Art Unit: 1713

Application Number: 10/725,058

Examiner: Ives J. WU

Filed: December 2, 2003

Attorney Docket Number: 100021-00136

For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCTION OF MODIFIED CARBON BLACK FOR RUBBER REINFORCEMENT AND PROCESS OF PRODUCTION OF RUBBER COMPOSITION CONTAINING MODIFIED CARBON BLACK

REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PRIORITY DOCUMENTS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

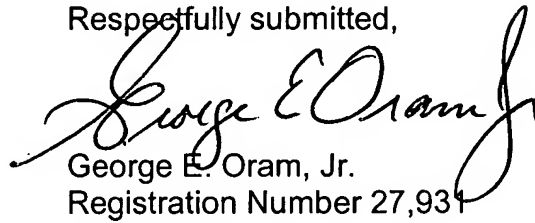
Date: May 25, 2006

Sir:

In reviewing the Notice of Allowability dated May 3, 2006, it was noted that the Examiner indicated that certified copies of the corresponding Japanese applications have not been acknowledged as being received from the International Bureau in the parent application, Application Number 09/147,441. Attached hereto are copies of the Continuing Application Transmittal dated December 2, 2003, claiming priority of the corresponding Japanese applications, and the Notification of Acceptance of Application dated March 23, 1999, indicating that the priority documents have been received in the parent application. It is respectfully requested that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office acknowledge receipt of the priority documents for the above-identified application.

Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment with respect to this paper to Deposit Account Number 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket Number 100021-00136.

Respectfully submitted,



George E. Oram, Jr.
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GEO:vmh

Enclosures: Continuing Application Transmittal (copy)
Notification of Acceptance of Application (copy)

**CONTINUING APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL UNDER RULE 1.53(b)
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Mail Stop: Patent Application

Director of the U.S. PTO

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: December 2, 2003

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) is a Divisional application of prior pending Application No. 09/147,441, filed March 2, 1999.

For (Title): PROCESS FOR PRODUCTION OF MODIFIED CARBON BLACK FOR RUBBER REINFORCEMENT AND PROCESS OF PRODUCTION OF RUBBER COMPOSITION CONTAINING MODIFIED CARBON BLACK

By (Inventors): Masayuki KAWAZOE, Tetsuji KAWAZURA

1. ☒ A Declaration and Power of Attorney is attached. The attached Declaration and Power of Attorney is:
 - ☒ a. A copy of the Declaration and Power of Attorney from the parent application. (Used with the same or fewer inventors and (a) a copy of the prior application or (b) a revised, reformatted or edited version of the prior application that does not contain new matter.)
 - ☐ b. A new Declaration and Power of Attorney. (Used with the same, fewer or additional inventors and (a) a copy of the prior application, (b) a revised, reformatted or edited version of the prior application that does not contain new matter, or (c) a new specification.)
2. ☒ The filing fee based on entry of the concurrently filed Preliminary Amendment is calculated below:

**CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION AFTER ENTRY OF
ANY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT NOTED BELOW**

			SMALL ENTITY			OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
FOR:	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA	RATE	FEE	OR	RATE	FEE
BASIC FEE				\$ 385	OR		\$ 770
TOTAL CLAIMS	8 - 20	= 0	x 9 =	\$	OR	x 18	\$
INDEP CLAIMS	2 - 3	= 0	x 43 =	\$	OR	x 86	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED			+145 =	\$	OR	+290	\$
			TOTAL	\$	OR	TOTAL	\$ 770

* If the difference is less than zero, enter "0".

3. ☒ A Check in the amount of \$770 to cover the filing fee is attached.
4. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees that may be required to complete this filing, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-2300.
5. ☒ Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:
 --This is a Division of Application No. 09/147,441, filed March 2, 1999, which is a §371 of International Patent Application No. PCT/JP98/00567, filed February 12, 1998. The disclosure of the prior applications are hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.--
6. ☒ Priority of Japanese application Nos. 9-1126296 filed April 30, 1997; 9-112905, filed April 30, 1997; 9-144225, filed June 2, 1997; 9-146796, filed June 4, 1997; 9-206901, filed July 31, 1997; and 9-224082 filed August 20, 1998 is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119 and/or §365(b).
7. ☒ The certified copies were received in prior Application No. 09/147,441 from the International Bureau.

8. ☒ The prior application is assigned of record to The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd recorded at Reel 9828, Frames 0726 and 0727 on March 2, 1999.
9. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement is attached along with Form PTO-1449.
10. ☒ Other: Notification of Change Name and Address
11. ☒ The Power of Attorney in the application is to:

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Barton, Rhonda L., Reg. No. 47,271
Berman, Richard J., Reg. No. 39,107
Carlan, Janine, Reg. No. 42,387
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12. ☒ Address all future communications to:

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TECH/212245.1

09/147441



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
Address: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

MAY 25 2006

U.S. APPLICATION NO.	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
09/147,441	KAWAZOE	M P21-8052

5611
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WASHINGTON DC 20005-5701

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/JP98/00567

LA. FILING DATE

PRIORITY DATE

02/12/98

04/30/97

DATE MAILED:

03/23/99

**NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371
AND 37 CFR 1.494 OR 1.495**

1. The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as ☒ a Designated Office (37 CFR 1.494), ☐ an Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is **ACCEPTED** for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

2. The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

02 MAR 1999

02 MAR 1999

35 U.S.C. 102(e) DATE

DATE OF RECEIPT OF
35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. **THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE "FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371(C) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE. The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363).** Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

3. ☒ A request for immediate examination under 35 U.S.C. 371(f) was received on 23 DEC 1998 and the application will be examined in turn.

4. The following items have been received:

☒ U.S. Basic National Fee.

☒ Copy of the international application in:

☒ a non-English language.

☐ English.

☒ Translation of the international application into English.

☒ Oath or Declaration of inventor(s) for DO/EO/US.

☒ Copy of Article 19 amendments. ☐ Translation of Article 19 amendments into English.

The Article 19 amendments ☐ have ☐ have not been entered.

☐ The International Preliminary Examination Report in English and its Annexes, if any.

☐ Copy of the Annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER).

☐ Translation of Annexes to the IPER into English.

The Annexes ☐ have ☐ have not been entered.

☒ Preliminary amendment(s) filed 23 DEC 1998 and

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) filed 23 DEC 1998 and

☒ Assignment document.

☐ Power of Attorney and/or Change of Address.

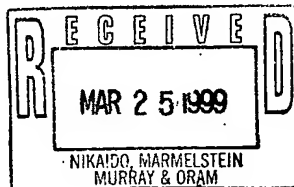
☐ Substitute specification filed

☐ Statement Claiming Small Entity Status.

☒ Priority Document.

☒ Copy of the International Search Report ☒ and copies of the references cited therein.

☐ Other:



Applicant is reminded that any communication to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above. (37 CFR 1.5)

Vonda Wallace

PCT International Division

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305-3736